FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION CD 244

Date 12/19/63

1

ERIC TRUMBACH, 1025 Dauphine Street, employed as a bartender and night manager of the Lafitte In Exile Bar, corner of Dumaine and Bourbon Streets, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that he did not know LEE HARVEY OSWALD or JACK RUBY and to his knowledge had never seen either individual.

TRUMBACH stated that the Lafitte In Exile Bar is frequented by the homosexual element of the City of New Orleans and while he is acquainted with all of the regular customers of the bar, he knows most of them by their first name and nickname or just as a regular customer and only infrequently does he ever learn the full or correct name of any of the customers of this bar.

TRUMBACH stated that approximately December 1, 1963, an individual whose name he did not know and with whom he was not personally acquainted, was seated in the bar and they discussed the assassination of President KENNEDY. During the conversation, a question was raised as to whether OSWALD was "gay", that is, whether OSWALD was a homosexual. TRUMBACH stated that he told this unknown individual that if OSWALD was "gay" he must have known him. TRUMBACH stated he did not mean that he did know OSWALD, but this was just a general statement by which he meant that OSWALD probably came into the Lafitte In Exile Bar at sometime or other if OSWALD lived in New Orleans and was "gay". TRUMBACH stated that during the same conversation the name CLAY BERTRAND was also mentioned and TRUMBACH stated that this name sounded familiar to him. He remarked to this unknown individual that he thought this person may have been a patron of the Lafitte In Exile Bar. TRUMBACH stated that he subsequently determined that the individual he associated with the name CLAY BERTRAND was not CLAY BERTRAND and that this person's name was BURTON (phonetic) first name unknown, who occasionally comes into the Lafitte In Exile Bar. He stated he observed BURTON about two weeks ago, but did not know BURTON's residence or employment.

TRUMBACH stated that the assassination of President Kennedy has been a major topic of conversation among the

On 12/18/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # 100-16601

by SA REGIS L. KENNEDY :lav Date dictated 12/19/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

homosexuals of New Orleans and all of them have their own opinions based on what they have read in the newspapers and seen on television.

TRUMBACH viewed photographs of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and JACK RUBY and stated that both individuals were unknown to him.

43